(b) if so, whether Government has assessed the annual requirement in various disciplines over next 10-15 years and regulate the number of seats for admission in various colleges, institutes and universities accordingly;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) While higher education does have a linkage to employment opportunities, the essence of education goes beyond to the wide vision of growing knowledge through research, including values and bringing forth informed citizens. The Ministry of Human Resource Development has not commissioned any study to relate the output of higher education to the employment opportunities in the country.

Universalisation of Secondary Education

†1899. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is working on a plan for universalisation of Secondary Education;

(b) if so, by when this scheme will be ready;

(c) the total yearly expenditure proposed to be incurred on this scheme;

(d) the funding pattern of the scheme; and

(e) whether the Union Government will bear the entire cost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The new centrally sponsored scheme called "Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan" is meant to universalize access to secondary education and to improve its quality. The scheme has already been launched in March, 2009.

(c) The allocation for the scheme for the Eleventh Five Year Plan is Rs. 20,120 crore. A provision of Rs. 1353.98 crore has been made in 2009-10 for this scheme.

(d) and (e) The sharing pattern between the centre and the states, for both recurring and non-recurring cost, during the Eleventh Five Year Plan is 75:25, while for the north-eastern states, the ratio is 90:10.

Committee on Higher Education

1900. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the high-level committee on 'Renovation and Rejuvenation' of Higher Education submitted its report to Government;

(b) if so, whether Government has accepted the recommendations of the committee; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government has taken measures to pursue action on the lines of the report of the committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir. The Committee to advise on Renovation and Rejuvenation of Higher Education constituted by the Government under Prof. Yash Pal, has submitted its Report on 24th June, 2009.

(b) and (c) The Report is under consideration of Government.

Fee hike in playing schools in NCR

1901. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of steep fee hike in many National Capital Region (NCR's) schools particularly pre-primary playing schools who are charging fee "on free will" in absence of any guideline on quantum of fee hike by concerned State Government;

(b) if so, what action Government proposes to take to redress the grievances of hundreds of poor parents who are unable to pay such a huge amount of fee in Delhi and elsewhere apart from demand from the school authorities to pay arrears to the tune of Rs. 5000/- to Rs. 10,000/- per student; and

(c) whether Government proposes to associate Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs) in this regard before such schools take a decision in fee hikes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Education is a concurrent subject and school education is primarily within the purview of the State Governments. It is for the concerned State Governments to monitor the fee hike in schools. In case of schools of Delhi, the Education Department of Government of NCT of Delhi has issued a detailed order on 11.02.2009 to regulate the fee hike in private unaided recognized schools including pre-primary playing schools. A Grievance Redressal Committee has been constituted by the Government of NCT of Delhi to redress the grievances of aggrieved parents and it has been made mandatory for schools to associate Parent Teacher Associations in the matter of fee hike.

Central University in Himachal Pradesh

1902. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes for setting up a Central University in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the status of the proposal;